

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2017



'Leaves of Autumn' by Helen Barclay
WHEN BLADES OF GRASS ARE TURNING BROWN
AND AUTUMN LEAVES COMING FLOATING DOWN,
I DANCE WITH THEM ON LAWN AND STREET
AND SCUFFLE THROUGH THEM WITH MY FEET.
THE TO ONE SPECIAL SPOT I TAKE
ALL I CAN GATHER WITH MY RAKE,
HEAPING THEM HIGH ABOVE MY HEAD
TO MAKE A GIANT FEATHERBED,
WHERE, WHEN I CLIMB ON TOP TO REST,
I SINK INTO A COSY NEST.

WELCOME!



Mohammed Abdul Hamid, known as Hamid holds a Master's Degree in Social Work . He also completed Post Qualifying (PQ) diploma in Children and Family Social Work from Royal Holloway University of London in 2012. He is registered with Health Care and Professionals Council (HCPC), England. Hamid has 8 years exclusive experience in fostering in both independent fostering agency and a local authority. Hamid has the expertise in quality assurance, particularly in maintaining case files of foster carers and looked after children. Hamid extensively worked with foster carers belonging to Black , Asian & Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities. He helped many young people in transition to their adulthood. He has special interest in supporting unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC). He successfully organised several support groups, children's fun day, families day out and other events. **Hamid joined the Shining Stars Family in September 2017.**

WELCOME!



Nicki Slue Ebanks has previously undertaken her work experience as a student social worker with Shining Stars Fostering Agency. She has completed her BA in Social Work from Canterbury Christ Church University. Nicki is now a qualified social worker registered with the Health Care and Professionals Council (HCPC). Many Congratulations Nicki and **welcome aboard!!!**

*Congratulations
on your
Wedding*

Our dear **Maryam Tahir** got married recently. Many CONGRATULATIONS to Maryam on her wedding. Wish you a very happy married life.

SUMMER ACTIVITY

On the 21st August 2017 Shining Stars organised a summer activity and went to Southend-On-Sea. Foster Carers, their birth children and the looked after children were invited. In total 28 people joined the Shining Stars Team on that day. This was a wonderful opportunity for team building activities.



The day started by travelling together on a coach to the seaside. There was something for every age group. Young people went to explore the Adventure Island and enjoyed the adventurous rides. The younger children spent the day on the beach building sandcastles and swimming. Lunch was also provided for everybody. The day trip ended with yummy treats for everyone.

"We had a perfect day out with everyone. Everything was planned amazingly from the travel arrangements, the refreshments and lunch to the carefully chosen location. Well done to the Shining Stars Team for organizing such a joyful family trip" -

Afsar and Parveen Khan

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUPPORT GROUP

A Support group was organised for young people on the 30th September. The young people were taken for a day out to Central London for sightseeing!!!! We started from London Bridge and covered Blackfriars Bridge, Westminster Bridge, Embankment and Tower Bridge. The young people were taken to Kings Cross and St. Pancras and ended the day with a nice lunch. It was a memorable day as for some of them it was their first experience of visiting London.



CERTAIN THINGS TO BE MINDFUL OF

No Bin bags: children in care must carry their lives with dignity. The practice of moving placements with personal possessions in bin bags was a very common source of offence and complaint among young people in care. Shining Stars Fostering Agency's policy in this regard is clear; **THE USE OF BIN BAGS IS UNACCEPTABLE.**



Please make sure you have spare suitcases/holdalls readily available to pack children's belongings when it is time for them to move. Argos has some nice holdalls that are available in sets and are good price (check out Argos Product No: 9058345)

MEMORY BOXES

We would like all foster carers to have a memory box for each child that they are looking after. A memory box holds mementoes of a child's time with you: tickets, cards, receipts, photos. If you are looking for somewhere to store all these mementoes TK Maxx has some lovely treasure boxes available for less than £10. There are designs to suit all ages as can be seen on the left.



PRIZE DRAW!

Send us the completed **Sudoku** and have a chance of entering a **£50 prize draw!!!**

			5	4				8
6					2	3		
	7				3			9
	3	1		5				2
	4			3		7	1	
	9		7			2		
		8	6					5
1				2	4			

SHINING STARS FOSTERING AGENCY
would like to invite you to their

END OF THE YEAR PARTY 2017

WHERE
The Clay Oven Banqueting Suite 2,
197 Ealing Road,
Wembley HA0 4LW

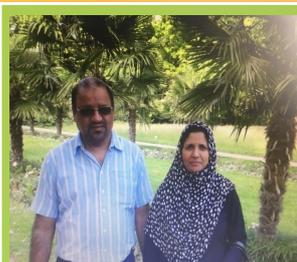
WHEN
Friday,
November 24th 2017
6.45pm

R.S.V.P
by November 10th 2017
to Yasir
07905209748

We would be delighted if you could join the End Of The Year Party on the 24th November 2017 at Clay Oven Wembley.

Let's make memories together!

NEW APPROVED FAMILIES



ANEELA ANJUM & TASAWWAR KHALID

Aneela and Khalid is a married couple of Asian (Pakistani) descent living in Streatham, LB of Lambeth. The couple are practising Muslim

but are open to diversity and are willing to care for children and young people from other religions, ethnicity and cultures. The couple have been married over 25 years and have a strong, stable and time tested relationship. They have three birth children. Their two older daughters are married and live independently while their 15 year old shares the family home. The couple are multi lingual and speak English, Urdu, Punjabi and German. Aneela is available full time to foster. Tasawwar works flexible hours and is usually home during the day. Aneela is quite active within the Ahmadiyya Community and works with children and young people on a voluntary basis. The couple have an excellent support network who all live locally and include approved foster carers from another IFA.

FATIMA & NASIR

Nasir Ali and Fatima Ghulam are a married couple of Asian Pakistani descent. The carers have a 5 year old son living with them. Nasir is of French nationality while Fatima is of Pakistani nationality. Fatima is a full time foster carer while Nasir is self employed and works as an Ice cream seller/vendor. The couple speaks English, Punjabi, Urdu and French (Nasir). They live in a beautiful and well decorated four bedroom house with two large room available for fostering.



RANA & SAJJAD SAEED

Rana and Saaed Sajjad are a married couple of Asian (Pakistani) descent living in Greenford/Northolt (LB of Ealing, close to A40). Rana (Female) works as an Administrator with a GP, she works usually from 8:00 am-1:00 pm while Sajjad works as a CCTV operator for Brent Council. The carers are practising Muslim and speak English, Urdu, Punjabi and Pushto. The couple have been married for over 20 years and have a strong and stable relationship. The couple has previously worked as Host Family for international students and has hosted students from countries such as France, Germany, Spain, etc.



YVONNE KING

Yvonne King is a single carer of Black Caribbean descent and lives in Ilford with her 28 year old daughter Krystle. Yvonne has had over 30 years' experience of working in the care sector with elderly. It was a job that fitted in with her personality, which is naturally warm and caring. She has a good sense of assessing the needs of those less able and is very empathetic. Yvonne is a full time foster carer with no other children in the placement as a result will be able to focus on the needs of looked after children without much distraction. With Yvonne's warm and nurturing personality, any child/children placed will feel welcomed and will be integrated in the family, support network and local resources.

FAKHRA ANJUM

Fakhra is a single parent of Asian (Pakistani) descent living in Croydon. She is a practising Muslim but is open to diversity and willing to care for children and young people from other religions, ethnicity and cultures. She has a 10 year old daughter who shares the family home and attends primary school.

Fakhra is multilingual and speaks English, Urdu and Punjabi. Fakhra is currently a full-time home maker allowing her to foster full time. Fakhra is able to drive and owns a car, therefore would be able to facilitate school and contact runs and other appointments in relation to a child or young person locally. She lives in a four-bedroom mortgaged house in Croydon and has two bedrooms available for fostering.



MARILYN MAY BENMALEK



Marilyn is a single foster carer living in the London borough of Croydon with her 9 year old daughter and a 16 year old unaccompanied asylum seeking young person from Albania. Marilyn is a full time foster carer with 3 years' experience in caring for unaccompanied minors. Marilyn was previously fostering for another independent fostering agency and has recently transferred to us. Her life style is centred on the needs of her 9 year old daughter and the 15 year old foster son who is from Albania. He is likely to remain placed until the age of 18. He is well settled and attends school full time where he is making good progress. Marilyn has personal experience and understanding of displacement as she migrated from Zimbabwe to the UK at the age of 28. She found the separation from her parents and other family members difficult, and this experience has helped her support UASC placed in her care. Marilyn has two bedrooms available for fostering.

TAZEEN MIRZA & ASIF HASAN

Tazeen and Asif are a married couple of Asian Pakistani descent belonging to the muslim faith. Tazeen is a home maker while Asif is a medical doctor by profession. Tazeen and Asif have an eleven-year-old adopted daughter Rayeesah. Their daughter is very loving and enjoys the company of other children. She is happy about her parent's decision to foster and is looking forward to having foster children at home. Tazeen and Asif wish to foster because they want to take on a caring role for a child who has not had the opportunities and nurturing environment that their daughter has had thereby making a difference in society. Both Tazeen and Asif already have some experience of being involved in the care of a looked after child as her sister is an approved foster carer. Tazeen and Asif have hands on experience of raising their daughter Rayeesah and supporting Tazeen's sister's looked after young person thus have some relevant transferable skills. Tazeen and Asif plan to foster three children or a sibling group of any ethnicity between the ages 0-18 years old, either gender.

LULZIM KASA

Lulzim is a single male carer of White Albanian background living in a four bedroom flat in Palmers Green. He is self-employed and works as a delivery driver. Lulzim is an experienced parent of two children aged 9 & 11 years old who live with their mother. Lulzim has a good support network that consists of approved foster carers who live locally within LB of Enfield. Lulzim is multi lingual and speaks Albanian, English, Greek and Italian. Lulzim lives in a rented flat- this is a four bedroom flat situated on the main road, Green Lanes in Palmers Green. The flat is on the third floor and has three rooms available for fostering.

WE ARE RECRUITING!! Do you know someone who has a room in their house and space to become a foster carer? We are currently recruiting Foster Carers in London and surrounding Boroughs. We pay a competitive Fostering allowance and provide 24/7 support including a full training package. if you recommend a family to us, we will pay you a competitive recommendation bonus of £800. This will be paid in two installments- £400 following a successful home visit and the remaining £400 once the family is approved by us as Foster Carers. So get in touch with us if you know any one who is interested in fostering!!!

